290

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY Costa Rica REPORT NO. 25X1A

SUBJECT Communist Activities among the Banana DATE DISTR. 16 October 1953

NO. OF PAGES 1

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

REFERENCES

25X1X

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.

THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

- 1. Antonio ZARATE and Humberto RODRIGUEZ became secretary-general and secretary of organization of the Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Industria del Banano y Similares (STIBS Communist-dominated) of Quepos, Costa Rica, replacing Isaias MARCHENA and Domingo ROJAS, during a visit of the latter two to Golfito. When the two new leaders return to Quepos, a reorganization of the labor union is planned. Another active Communist in the area is Victor MORA Calderon, a barkeeper in Quepos, who is a long-time Vanguardia Popular militant and a member of the National Committee of the party.
- 2. The April and May 1953 meetings of the local Communists were few and at long intervals, with nothing concrete accomplished. This lack of activity was caused by the absence of MARCHENA and ROJAS, as well as by the increasing political activities of the two contending parties in the national elections, which served to push labor union affairs into the background at that time.
- 3. The Communist leaders carry on a continuing propaganda campaign against the United Fruit Company, the United States Government, and Americans in general, while extolling the Soviets and pointing out to the workers that the Soviet Union is working on their behalf against the American imperialists and their rich Costa Rican collaborators.